

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ and/or in [[double brackets]] if the deletion would be difficult to see.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) ~~The messaging apparatus according to claim 3,~~
A messaging apparatus having a chair-like construction configured to be capable of sandwiching and releasing an arm portion of a user and to be capable of giving pressure stimulation to the sandwiched arm portion of the user, the apparatus comprising:

an armrest having a support portion at an upper portion thereof that is configured to support a forearm of the user; and

a forearm massager that is removably mounted to the armrest and that has a connecting portion connected with the armrest in a position below the support portion and a forearm massaging portion that is configured to give pressure stimulation to the forearm of the user with the forearm sandwiched,

wherein the forearm massager is laterally mounted to the armrest from a side, and the forearm massaging portion is located above the support portion of the armrest with the forearm massager mounted to the armrest;

wherein the armrest has a detachable member that is movable along the longitudinal direction of the armrest;

wherein the connecting portion of the forearm massager is configured to be detachably connected with the detachable member, and the forearm massager is movable along the longitudinal direction of the armrest with the connecting portion connected with the detachable member;

wherein the armrest has a slit extending along the longitudinal direction of the armrest below the support portion, the detachable member is provided in the slit, and the connecting portion and the detachable member are connected with each other via the slit; and

wherein the detachable member is movable within a range of the slit.

5. (Original) The massaging apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a lock mechanism configured to fix the forearm massager to the armrest.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The massaging apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a backrest configured to support an upper half body of the user;

a reclining angle change means configured to change a reclining angle of the backrest; and

a control circuit,

wherein the armrest has a moving means configured to move the detachable member in the longitudinal direction of the armrest; and

wherein the control circuit is configured to control, in synchronization with a change of the reclining angle of the backrest by the reclining angle change means, an operation of the moving means so that the moving means causes the forearm massager to move in a direction according to a reclining direction of the backrest and by a distance corresponding to the reclining angle.

8. (Currently amended) ~~The massaging apparatus according to claim 3,~~
~~further comprising:~~ **A massaging apparatus having a chair-like construction**
configured to be capable of sandwiching and releasing an arm portion of a user and
to be capable of giving pressure stimulation to the sandwiched arm portion of the
user, the apparatus comprising:

an armrest having a support portion at an upper portion thereof that is
configured to support a forearm of the user;

a forearm massager that is removably mounted to the armrest and that has a
connecting portion connected with the armrest in a position below the support
portion and a forearm massaging portion that is configured to give pressure
stimulation to the forearm of the user with the forearm sandwiched;

a massaging portion that is expandable and contractible by air intake and air exhaust; and

an air supply and exhaust device;

wherein the forearm massager is laterally mounted to the armrest from a side, and the forearm massaging portion is located above the support portion of the armrest with the forearm massager mounted to the armrest;

wherein the armrest has a detachable member that is movable along the longitudinal direction of the armrest;

wherein the connecting portion of the forearm massager is configured to be detachably connected with the detachable member, and the forearm massager is movable along the longitudinal direction of the armrest with the connecting portion connected with the detachable member;

wherein the connecting portion has a plug through which the air is guided to the massaging portion; and

wherein the detachable member has a socket that is connected with the plug with the connecting portion of the forearm massager connected with the detachable member, and the air is sent from the air supply and exhaust device through the plug.

9-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The massaging apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the forearm massager further comprises:

a fix and support portion configured to support the forearm of the user with the forearm massager attached to the armrest;

a pressing portion configured to move close to and away from the fix and support portion and configured to cooperate with the fix and support portion to sandwich the forearm of the user supported on the fix and support portion; and

an actuator configured to move the pressing portion to be close to and away from the fix and support portion;

wherein the massaging portion is provided at a part of the pressing portion which is opposed to the fix and support portion; and

wherein the massaging portion has two air bags arranged in a direction crossing the longitudinal direction of the armrest; and

the massaging apparatus further comprises:

a control circuit configured to control:

an operation of the actuator to cause the pressing portion to move close to the fix and support portion to thereby allow the forearm of the user supported on the fix and support portion to be sandwiched between the fix and support portion and the pressing portion;

then an operation of the massaging portion to cause the two air bags to be expanded to allow the forearm of the user sandwiched between the fix and support portion and the pressing portion to be sandwiched in the direction crossing the longitudinal direction of the armrest; and

then an operation of the actuator to cause the pressing portion to move away from the fix and support portion to thereby allow the two air bags sandwiching the forearm of the user to move away from the forearm of the user.

13. (Withdrawn) A massaging apparatus configured to be capable of sandwiching and releasing a leg portion or an arm portion of a user and to be capable of giving pressure stimulation to the sandwiched leg portion or arm portion of the user, the apparatus comprising:

a support base configured to have a support face for supporting the leg portion or the arm portion of the user;

a rotation portion configured to be rotatably mounted at a side part of the support base so as to move close to and away from the support face;

a driving portion configured to rotate the rotation portion to be close to and away from the support base; and

a massaging portion mounted at an opposed face of the rotation portion which is opposed to the support face, the massaging portion being configured to give, when the driving portion causes the rotation portion to rotate close to the support face, pressure stimulation to the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base.

14. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, wherein:

the rotation portion has a pushed portion that extends, with respect a rotation center of the rotation portion, to a substantially opposite side of a position at which the massaging portion is attached;

the support base has an opposed part which is opposed to the pushed portion; and

the driving portion is configured to vary a distance between the pushed portion and the opposed part.

15. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the rotation portion has a pushed portion at a face thereof which is on substantially opposite side of the opposed face thereof opposed to the support face of the support base;

the support base has an opposed part which is opposed to the pushed portion; and the driving portion is configured to vary a distance between the pushed portion and the opposed part.

16. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the driving portion has air bags fixed to the pushed portion and the opposed part, respectively.

17. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the support face is configured to support both leg portions of the user and the support base is provided at both sides with the rotation portions.

18. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the massaging portion is formed of an elastic material.

19. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the massaging portion is a roller that is formed of an elastic material and that is configured to be rotatable around a pivot substantially parallel to a rotation axis of the rotation portion.

20. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

a detection module configured to detect a contact of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user with the massaging portion; and

wherein the control portion is configured to repeatedly execute a control process to control the operation of the driving portion:

to operate the driving portion to cause the rotation portion to rotate close to the support face, to cause the detection module to detect the contact of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user with the massaging portion, and then to operate the driving portion to cause the rotation portion to rotate away from the support face, until the detection module does not detect the contact of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user with the massaging portion.

21. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising an air bag provided at the support face.

22. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the control portion is configured to control respective operations of the air bag and the driving portion to operate the driving portion to cause the air bag provided at the support face to be expanded and then to cause the rotation portion to rotate close to the support face.

23. (Withdrawn) A massaging apparatus configured to be capable of sandwiching and releasing a leg portion or an arm portion of a user and to be capable of giving pressure stimulation to the sandwiched leg portion or arm portion of the user, the apparatus comprising:

a support base configured to be maintained to be immovable and to support a substantially entire length of a lower thigh of the leg portion or a forearm of the arm portion of the user;

a pressing portion configured to cooperate with the support base to sandwich the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base and to move relative to the support base, when the support base is immovable, in a substantially longitudinal direction of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base;

a massaging portion that is mounted at least one of opposed parts of the support base and the pressing portion and that is configured to give pressure stimulation to the leg portion or the arm portion of the user sandwiched between the support base and the pressing portion;

a driving portion configured to move the pressing portion in the substantially longitudinal direction of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported by the support base;

a detection portion configured to detect that the pressing portion reaches an end of a moving range thereof; and

a control portion configured to control, based on a detection result by the detection portion, the operation of the driving portion.

24. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the support base is configured to support a substantially entire length of a lower thigh or a forearm of the user.

25-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the pressing portion has a roller configured to roll on the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base.

28. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, wherein:
the support base is configured to support a calf of the user;
the massaging apparatus further comprising a sole massaging portion configured to give mechanical stimulation to a sole of the user.

29. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising a cover portion configured to be rotatable around a rotation axis provided at one end or in the vicinity of the support base so as to be close to and away from the support face of the support base on which the leg portion or the arm portion of the user is supported; and

wherein the pressing portion is mounted at an opposed part of the cover portion which is opposed to the support face so as to move close to and away from the support face, with the cover portion being at a position distant from the support face.

30. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising a driving portion configured to move the pressing portion to be close to and away from the support face.

31. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the pressing portion comprises:

a first member that is configured to move distant from the support base while being opposed thereto and to move in the substantially longitudinal direction of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base; and

a second member mounted at an opposed part of the first member which is opposed to the support base and configured to move close to or away from the support base.

32. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a driving portion configured to move the second member to be close to and away from the support base.

33. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the massaging portion has a roller that is rotatably attached to the pressing portion and that is

configured to roll on the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base.

34. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, wherein:
the support base has a guide rail extending in the substantially longitudinal direction of the supported leg portion or arm portion of the user; and
the pressing portion has a movable element engageable with the guide rail so as to be movable along the guide rail.

35. (Withdrawn) A massaging apparatus configured to be capable of sandwiching and releasing a leg portion or an arm portion of a user and to be capable of giving pressure stimulation to the sandwiched leg portion or arm portion of the user, the apparatus comprising:

a support base configured to be maintained to be immovable and to support the leg portion or the arm portion of the user;

a pressing portion configured to cooperate with the support base to sandwich the leg portion or the arm portion of the user supported on the support base;

a massaging portion that is mounted at least one of opposed parts of the support base and the pressing portion, that is configured to be able to give pressure stimulation to the leg portion or the arm portion of the user sandwiched between the support base and the pressing portion, and that is configured, when at least the support base is immovable, to change a position at which the pressure stimulation is given to the leg portion or the arm portion of the user; and

a cover portion configured to be rotatable around a rotation axis provided at one end or in the vicinity of the support base so as to be close to or away from the support face of the support base on which the leg portion or the arm portion of the user is supported;

wherein the massaging portion is mounted at a part of the cover portion which is opposed to the support face.

36. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the support base and the pressing portion are configured to sandwich a lower thigh or a forearm of the user over a substantially entire length thereof.

37. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the massaging portion has a plurality of massaging elements configured to be capable of giving pressure stimulation to different positions of the leg portion or the arm portion of the user; and

the massaging apparatus further comprising a control portion configured to perform control to separately drive the respective massaging elements.

38. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising a cover portion configured to be rotatable around a rotation axis provided at one end or in the vicinity of the support base so as to be close to or away from the support face of the support base on which the leg portion or the arm portion of the user is supported; and

wherein the pressing portion is mounted at an opposed part of the cover portion which is opposed to the support face so as to move close to and away from the support face, with the cover portion inclined at a predetermined angle with respect to the support face.

39. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising a driving portion configured to move the pressing portion close to and away from the support face.

40-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Withdrawn) The massaging apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the pressing portion has a vibrator.

44-51. (Cancelled)